



TOP OF THE HILL



MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY
27 MAY 2014

4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205
VOL. XIX, NO. 4

8th Grade Hits up Hotlanta!

By Alex Bulgarino

This April, the class of 2018 ventured to Atlanta. While there, we petted sharks, wrecked go-karts, painted teachers, watched the Nation's pastime, and enjoyed some thrilling rides. Within the first five minutes of our time at the aquarium, we broke the escalator. Somebody (not going to name any names) stepped onto the escalator with untied shoes, so the laces got caught in it. I was surprised that they still let us pet the sharks and stingrays

if we could not even take care of an inanimate object.

In the petting zoo there were numerous stingrays that loved to be patted and touched, but the animal that everyone wanted to touch

was the shark. It would taunt students by going up to the sides of the glass and then quickly diving back down before anyone could touch it. That is the majority of where I spent my time, but I heard that the rest of the aquarium was amazing.

After going to the aquarium, we walked to the IMAX theater nearby. We ate box lunches containing a ham and cheese sandwich, a bag of chips, a water, and creme-filled cookies. We watched a documentary shining a good light on sharks. It was a very informative film that I think we all enjoyed, especially the pseudo-seal part.

That night, we went to Andretti's World. At Andretti's, we had a feast of taco shells, taco meat, and cheese; for we ran out of shells very early. After having a relaxing dinner, it was off to the racing pits for my group. After numerous crashes, we started catching the drift of the karts. After go-karting, we went to the awesome arcade where



A group moment at the Aquarium

we broke many shooter game records (says a lot about MBA boys). Even though we played many shooter games, I think everyone at one time or another tried their hand at beer-pong (minus the beer). After the arcade, it was off to the ropes for several very lucky boys, who got the privilege of testing their footwork and climbing skills. Other groups were able to go zip lining or

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The infamous escalator

ATLANTA

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rock-climbing. Overall, Andretti's was an awesome place to play some mind-numbing and frustrating games.

The next morning we were dragging. We had to eat a quick breakfast and prepare ourselves for a beating during paintball. At paintball, we divided up into two groups and then from those groups into two teams. On the opposing Yellow team were all of the coaches plus some people who had actually played paintball before. During all three of the practice rounds, the Yellow team kicked the Red's butts, but in the ultimate mega paintball championship, the Reds absolutely tainted the Yellows. In the first round, we played on a medium sized course with lots of barriers. The mission was to have your team's flag up by the end of time. Coach Brock and Coach Simpson absolutely annihilated the Reds. During the second round, on the same course with the same mission, Coach Chauvin wreaked havoc on the Reds' defenses. Finally, Cal Bryant, Will Nutter, and Ty Allen nailed Coach Chauvin, who just would not give up. During the third round, we were on a shorter field with a ditch and a hill with trees and barriers in the middle; the mission was to eliminate the other team. Coaches Chauvin and Brock dominated this battle. Finally, after lunch came the ultimate battle. It was the battle to end all wars between

all of the Yellows and all of the Reds.

At the beginning, the two teams were evenly matched with neither advancing, but as it progressed, the Reds marched forward until the Yellows were stuck at their own base, shooting down on the Reds. One of the Reds grabbed the flag but was shot down. After much confusion, Blake Robinson grabbed the flag and ran back to our base. By that time people were scrounging on the ground for ammo because the Reds still had to defend the flag. Congratulations to the Red Team for victory over the Yellow Team and the Coaches!!!!!!

That night we enjoyed an intense baseball game between the Atlanta Braves and the Washington Nationals. People were yelling at the umpire, throwing tomahawks, and booing the other team all game long. My favorite part of the game was watching it from the very top of the stadium. It was an amazing view. One could see the entire field as well as the beautiful city lights of the Atlanta skyline in the background. It was a picture-perfect moment, but we could not capture it in a picture because of the notorious "no phone" rule. At the stadium there was a family zone containing Xboxes, a playground, and a mini baseball field. I know some people bought a mini ball and bat to go play on those fields. The real game was very tight in the 8th and 9th innings, and they ended up having to play an extra inning, because it was tied at 3. The Braves came through with a great win. That night at the hotel, we were all so tired from the day's events that we crashed as soon as our heads

were on our pillows.

Our last day in Atlanta had come, and we were already missing yesterday. Everyone that morning was dragging. For example, my roommates and I forgot to set an alarm the night before, so we ended up oversleeping when we were going to get up at least two hours earlier. We had to grab a bagel or muffin or something and just go. We were off to ride the Batman, the wonderful Batman of death. (meant to



be said like *The Wizard of Oz* song). Six Flags Over Georgia was really fun, even with the overpriced food and the hour long lines. The top three overall rides given by a variety of people were: the Goliath, the Batman, and the Superman (in order of best to least). The rides were not the only attractions there.

There were also a myriad of carnival games that people could take a whiz at and burn holes in their pockets due to all the wasted money, but when you won a huge prize, you were treated like an auctioneer selling off your prize for the highest bid. On our tickets, we got a coupon for a boot of slushy goodness. Now when I say a boot of slushy, you are probably thinking that it is a term of measurement, but I can assure you it is a plastic boot that you can get free refills of slushy. People did

continued on the bottom of page 3

ATLANTA

Six Flags

By Cole Deal

On the eighth grade trip to Atlanta, we went to the Six Flags Over Atlanta. On Saturday morning as we were driving down the interstate, tired from the late-night Braves game, but excited for the action of Six Flags, we see the huge roller-coasters as we drive over the hill. Arriving at the park, we all tried to rush in and be first in the long lines. Some of the top rides were Goliath, Superman, Batman, Ninja, Dare Devil Dive, and the Scorcher.



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not find out about them till near the end of our time at Six Flags, so we drank as much as we could without getting brain freezes, then filled them up again before we had to leave on the buses. At last our time in Atlanta was done, and all of us were feeling closer to each other, but wait, we forgot Ivan Franco. It turns out Ivan was waiting in line for a milkshake, not aware of the time.

In conclusion, Atlanta was a great experience for all of us eighth graders. Special thanks to: Coaches Brock, Chauvin, McMurray, Euverard, Simpson, and Russ for destroying all of us in paintball. Also to Ms. Raines for her excellent photography, and Mrs. Stewart and all who helped in the planning of this wonderful trip.



The Goliath sure fit its name as it is as tall as a 200 story building and goes 70 mph. It brought great thrill to those who rode it and scared some off. Superman was another great attraction. You ride it as if you are Superman, facing downwards toward the ground, and you are able to see what is coming. Dare Devil Dive is a quick, heart-pounding ride



Upright and ready



Is this ride really worth it?

as it does many flips and turns. And for those who chose the more “relaxing” rides such Mine Train, Wiley E. Coyote, and Log Jamboree, I am sure they had a good time as well.

Even with the overpriced food and drinks and impossible Carnival Games, unless you’re Josh Morin, it was a fantastic way to end the eighth grade trip and close out our first two years at MBA. Also, we thank Mrs. Stewart for planning a great trip!



Face down for take-off!



YES, it was!!!

ATLANTA

Braves Game: Whimsy, Waffle House, and Walk-Off Win

By Ben Coulthard

On Friday, April 11, the MBA eighth graders enjoyed a night at Turner Field to watch the Atlanta Braves take on the Washington Nationals. It offered something for everyone to do, whether you liked baseball or not. We arrived early enough to take in many activities such as batting practice, the pregame concert in the main plaza, or just walking around the stadium and finding something fun to do. Most of



the eighth graders traveled the ballpark instead of watching the ballgame. As a baseball fan, I spent most of my time watching the ballgame and examining the many small things that took place throughout the game. It was also fun



because the Braves are my favorite baseball team, so I spent the game watching my favorite players such as Evan Gattis, Freddie Freeman, and Julio Teheran.

Teheran ended up pitching for the Braves against Tanner Roark for the Nationals. Roark only lasted four innings after giving up four runs in the second inning after a Gattis RBI single and a Ramiro Pena 3-run home run! However, the Nationals took the lead after a Dan Uggla error which led to a 3-run homer by Ryan Zimmerman. Things looked bleak for Braves fans after the Nationals took the lead in the 8th inning off a Denard Span RBI single. However, Justin Upton came through in the clutch after hitting a home run to tie the game. This turn

of events was good for me because it meant the fire-throwing reliever Craig Kimbrel came in to pitch. He struck out the side in the top of the 9th. Upton ended the game in the 10th with an RBI single after Jordan Schafer booked it all home to score all

the way from first. Aside from the game, there were many activities to be had such as testing how hard you could throw, eating a chocolate chip waffle from the Waffle House outpost, or snagging autographs from Braves players before the game in the bullpen.

Even though we didn't stay to watch the post game fireworks, MBA students watched in awe on the bus ride home. Overall, I would say that the Braves game was a success where all students were able to partake in many activities that they were able to enjoy in one way or another.



ATLANTA

Paintball

By Cole Deal

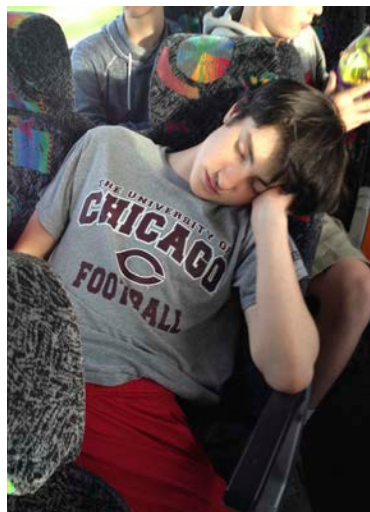
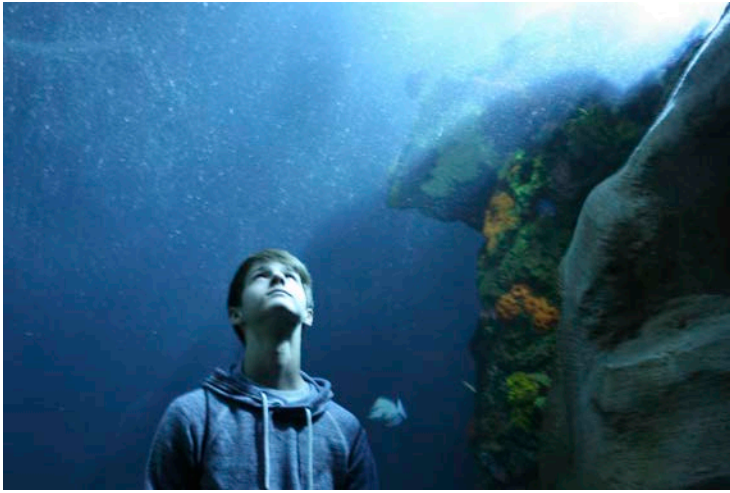
As you are out on the paintball field dodging bullets and trying to shoot at your opponent at the same time, it is a great experience for all. As they split us up into four teams, we all knew we wanted to be on Coach Simpson's team. Somehow, all the teachers got put on one team, but for those on their team it was great. We played on four fields, all with similar objectives of having control of a flag. One course was just barriers, another a mounds course, another a barrier course with two-story towers, and lastly a woods course. Some favored the mounds while others the barriers. The mounds course was the smallest of the four, and with just a mound of dirt protecting you, it was hard to not get shot as bullets were coming from all around you. For the final round of the day, the entire grade played the woods course. The objective was to capture the flag of the other team. It was a thrilling game.



ATLANTA



ATLANTA



ON THE HILL

Science Olympiad State Competition

By Mike Miccioli

On Friday, April 11, MBA's Science Olympians left class at the beginning of sixth period to load up the buses and depart for the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. The first setback occurred when the bus started up. The emergency door would not shut properly, which was made quite clear by the constant buzzing of the bus' alarm. After a quick pit stop for duct tape to secure the door, the team was back on the road. Once the substantial bus ride had ended, the students unloaded their supplies into their hotel rooms and ate

a classic American dinner at Outback Steakhouse. Hijinks continued once the students got back to the hotel. With only one key card assigned to each room and three people to each room, multiple rooms of people got locked out when everyone left their room and thought someone else had the card. Studying for events continued late into the night, with people constantly walking in and out of each other's rooms; these late hours were not a good combo with the 5:15 awakening in the morning.

After eating a surprisingly good hotel breakfast, the Big Red Olympians were back on the road in their buses, heading toward the University of Tennessee. The campus seemed to be easier to navigate than MTSU, where the regional competition was held. Although I must say that the selection of food options was inferior to those of MTSU. The competition ran fairly smoothly, with limited amounts of malfunctions on build events. MBA had numerous medal

winners, including Aditya Priyadarshi and Vincent Zhang who placed second in Entomology; fourth place finishes included Julian Habermann and Aditya Priyadarshi in Anatomy and Julian Habermann and John Cooper in Experimental Design; fifth place finishes included Alvin Zhang and Lucas Pao in Dynamic Planet and Alex Saavedra and Micah White in Robo-cross, and the sixth place finishers were Micah White and Alex Saavedra in Rotor Egg Drop, William Stewart and Mike Miccioli in Solar System, and Julian Habermann and Alex Saavedra in Water Quality.

Overall, MBA's junior school team placed tenth in the state. Unfortunately, MBA was missing three key eighth graders from the competition due to the class Atlanta trip the same day. Hopefully, next year the dates will be separate and the junior school will be able to place even higher. The high school team placed first and will be advancing to the National Competition in Orlando, Florida on May 16.



2014 Science Olympiad Team

ON THE HILL

Annual JS Poetry Competition Winners!



*Daniel Cowan
First Place*



*Jack Rankin
Second Place*



*Brady Slinger
Fourth Place*



*Arthur Laffer
Third Place*

Junior School Tradition Continues with Eighth Annual Poetry Recitation

The final round of the eighth annual Junior School Poetry Recitation Contest was held on April 21 in the Dead Poets Society Room. The competition is a celebration of National Poetry Month and the culmination of a year of quarterly recitation work by each student in the Junior School. The rounds begin with a representative from each English class and end with the seventh-grade finalists facing off against the eighth-grade finalists. This year's representatives for the seventh grade were Arthur Laffer and Jack Rankin, and the eighth-grade winners were Daniel Cowan and Brady Slinger. The finalists were quite varied with their presentations. Daniel and Brady presented impassioned renditions of Marc Antony's funeral speech in *Julius Caesar*, and Arthur and Jack took forthright and inspirational approaches with Rudyard Kipling's "If." Each performance was strong, and the competition was fierce, but Daniel Cowan emerged the victor. Second place went to Jack Rankin, and third place and fourth place went to Arthur Laffer and Brady Slinger respectively. Congratulations to each of these young men for their hard work and fine performances.

ON THE HILL

Big Red Mathletics Strikes Again

By Mike Miccioli

On Saturday, March 22, MBA competed in the MATHCOUNTS Tennessee State Competition. The Big Red had high hopes after coming off of a first place victory at the city competition. MBA sent a personal record-tying six students to the State Competition, including two seventh graders who will be returning. Following the written test was the Countdown Round, a high-energy super-speed round with buzzers and no calculators. The maximum time allowed for a problem is 45 seconds. Big Red Mathlete Ray Lee won his first two matches and was in the finals. Ray narrowly lost in the finals after leading 2-0. After the Countdown awards the Team awards were announced. MBA placed second as a team, which was disappointing for the two-time reigning State champions. After the Team awards, spirits were low; however, we knew we had a chance to do well in the Individual awards since two Mathletes made the Countdown Round, which is the top eight individuals. MBA was happily surprised when both Mathletes who made the Countdown Round placed in the top four individually, meaning they got to go to the National Competition. Ray Lee placed third individually with a score of 25, and Mike Miccioli placed second with a score of 26. In addition, Nikhil Peterson placed ninth in the state with a 22, Lucas Pao placed eleventh with a 21, Brian Lu placed fourteenth with an 18, and Julian Habermann placed seventeenth with a 15. Unfortunately, MBA's depth was not enough to overcome MUS's first place finisher, with a score of 35, putting MUS in the lead. He was also good enough to do all the problems on the team round, which secured their victory. However, this year was only the second when MBA sent multiple students to the National Competition. Only ten previous students (3 who did twice) in MBA's history had made the National Competition before.



The 2014 Champion MathCounts Team

The two Big Red Mathletes who qualified for Nationals continued rigorous workouts with Coach Qian and the state coach from MUS. There were several Saturday Skype lifts in Coach Qian's room, talking remotely to the coach and the two other Tennessee team members. Each lasted about three hours. On Thursday, May 8, the two Big Red Mathletes departed from the Nashville airport to Orlando with all expenses paid by MATHCOUNTS and the national sponsor, Raytheon. Following a smooth Southwest ride, the Mathletes arrived and were escorted into a bus by what appeared to be MATHCOUNTS secret service. Following the quick bus ride, students arrived at the Swan Hotel at Disney World. The Mathletes received their gear, including a TI-84 Plus Silver C edition calculator; while it is quite a fancy calculator, students were disappointed, since previous years' competitors had all received TI-Nspires, the absolute best calculator. Gear also included two t-shirts, a state collared shirt, a hat, sunglasses, pencils, a drawstring bag, etc. Also, state pins were given to each state, and soon the pin swapping started between the states. All meals were also paid for and included endless buffets for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Friday was the competition. The test was considerably harder than last year's, and some Mathletes were even spotted leaving the testing room in tears. Later that day was the Countdown Round, consisting of the top twelve students, with the top four seeds getting byes. ESPN broadcasted the tournament live on ESPN3. After all the Mathletes ran out into the arena with their respective states, the top students were called up onto stage. After the electric competition, the number 10 seed from California emerged as the winner, winning 4-2 in the finals. California also took first place in the team competition. Tennessee had a solid performance, finishing 35th out of 56 states and territories. This ranking was an improvement by 9 places from last year. Tennessee also had its number one Mathlete from MUS finish 26th in the whole nation out of 224 students.

On Saturday, the day started with a math video challenge, where four groups of students created and acted out videos on how to do a certain math problem. The Mathletes voted to decide the winning video. Next came Disney World. On Friday, students got to visit Epcot after the competition and walk around and eat in the different countries. The Mathletes got to go back on Saturday to another theme park, with both days paid for by MATHCOUNTS. I visited Animal Kingdom, which included a cool safari ride where one could see elephants, giraffes, hippos, alligators, etc. Some people visited Magic Kingdom and rode the rides. The day was capped off with a formal dinner. Coat and tie was the required dress code. The awards from the competition and video challenge were given out, and the trip was capped off with a mathematical dessert.

ON THE HILL

THE TIME KEY CARDS RUINED MY DAY

By John Spurgeon

It was Monday. I hated Mondays, and to make it worse, it was pouring rain. It was the week leading up to exams. I was just a regular seventh grader trying to finish the year strong. Over the course of the year I felt like I had worked pretty hard. My mom, however, disagreed. After my mom saw that I had failed three of my five exams, she promptly got me a tutor in each of those subjects whom I met with everyday over Christmas break. You might ask, “What does this have to with these exams, surely you’ve learned your lesson?” The truth was that I had, but my mom didn’t think so. It was raining hard, I had forgotten my belt, and it was four o’clock in the morning. That’s right, my mom woke me up at three thirty so I could get to school and start studying for my exams. My mom pulled my up to the entrance of Massey and said, “Bye! I love you! Have a nice day! I hope you get a lot of good studying done!” I said goodbye back and counted to three then sprinted across the lane to the Massey side entrance. I quickly pulled out my key card and placed it against the sensor. I then yanked on the door, but was surprised to find that it wouldn’t open. I swiped it again and the same thing happened. All the while my backpack and clothes were getting soaked. I silently cursed the key cards and sprinted to the front entrance of Massey where I met the same fate. I could tell then and there that this was going to be a bad day. Boy, was I right.

“Hey! Hey! Wake up!” I heard. I opened my eyes and looked up to see Mrs. Stewart. I was soaking wet and had fallen asleep with my head on my IPS book. I told Mrs. Stewart exactly what had happened, and she explained how the key cards don’t work early in the morning. She let me in, and I went to the PL room to start studying. I opened my Pre-Algebra book to find that the pages were all stuck together from the rain. “Great,” I said. “Just great.” Instead, I opened my BRB to find the exact same thing had happened. I let out a sigh and decided to get my homework done for that night.

An hour later it was seven thirty, and I had finished the homework of three of my five classes. It was now time to go to my advisory, but I dreaded going to advisory, not because I hated the class, but because the walk to the classroom was impossible since the key cards had been given out. My advisory was Mr. Boysen’s advisory, which was the farthest from the PL room. I decided to make a sprint for it. I dashed from across the hall of Mr. Wim’s room to the stairs by the side entrance. I then ran up the stairs to the door. I had done this without being hit. I stopped at the door to rest and to brace for the anarchy I was about to encounter. I then opened the door and sprinted face first into what appeared to be a massive white hurricane of key cards in the hallway.

I was being slashed and hit every which way I turned. I ran into walls and fell down multiple times, but I kept pushing on until I got within twenty feet of Mr. Boysen’s room. I put on an extra burst of speed, not being able to see through the mass of flying and whirling key cards. Then I dived for Mr. Boysen’s door, but I misjudged my leap and slammed my face into the door handle. I got up and walked black and blue into Mr. Boysen’s room, thinking that the worst had to be behind me, but once again I was wrong.

First period through third period went smoothly, but it was lunch where everything went wrong. I was walking to lunch when I tripped on a bench and fell down. I got up and dusted myself off, thinking that everything was okay, but when I arrived at the Dining Hall I found that my key card was broken. I let out an anguished sigh

Key card story continued on page 12

ON THE HILL

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and decided to wait until someone came to let me in, but thirty minutes later no one had let me in. Students had come by and said things like, “Defeats the purpose” and “Against the rules,” but never let me in. I was starving and wet, and I was cut and bruised, and it seemed all thanks to the key cards.

Three periods later I was finally in my car and heading home. I was tired and not looking forward to studying, but I was happy to be heading home. As I rode away from school I expressed my torturous day to my Mom. I explained to her how awful it had been, and how the key cards had ruined my day, and my mom, with me expecting a long heartfelt reply about how sorry she was and how much she would try to make it up to me, said, “So you didn’t get any studying done?”

“IT DEFEATS THE SYSTEM”



ON THE HILL

MBA Chess Team

By Lucas Pao

Throughout this school year, the MBA Chess team has traveled far to many chess tournaments. Just last month, John Morphett, Lucas Pao, Vincent Zhang, Julian Habermann, Patrick Dennis, and Atticus Glen went to Atlanta, Georgia to compete in the National Junior High Championships. This event was an exciting tournament. Primarily, kids in seventh through ninth grade attended. Around 1,300 people showed up from thirty seven states! There were six different sections according to your rating and what grade you are in, and there were about 150 to 250 kids in each section. In chess, the rating system ranges from 100 to 3000. A chess master is rated over 2200. As Coach Todd puts it, the different sections according to rating are just like wrestling where there are different weight classes. Just like a person who weighs eighty pounds would not wrestle someone weighing 180 pounds, chess players rated 800 would not have to play players rated 1800. The tournament lasted for a total of four days. There were a total of seven matches in the tournament.

Chess is a very interesting and unique sport. Each match or round can last from five minutes to three or four hours! Chess players do not just sit and think for four hours straight. Many people walk around and look at other people's games or get water. The way the scoring works is that a win counts as one point, a draw or tie (usually agreed) counts as a half point, and a loss counts as zero points towards your total score. Also, the top four players' scores of each team are added to form a team score. On



The 2014 MBA Chess Team

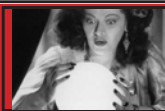
the very first day, there were side events, which are variants of chess. There is a type of chess called Blitz, which is fast chess. The word blitz comes from the World War II German word "blitzkrieg" meaning "lightning war." Players have five minutes each to make all their moves. If your time runs out, then you lose. Also, there is a variant of chess called Bughouse. It literally means "crazy or insane" or "a mental hospital or asylum." This game really is crazy. Bughouse is played with a team of two people. The difference between chess and bughouse is that pieces that your partner captures can be placed on your board as your move. The chess board becomes crazy and fills up with pieces as players rush to checkmate the opponent's king. Overall, this tournament was very fun, and MBA had lots of success. Lucas Pao tied for tenth place, and Julian Habermann placed second in a rating class prize (Rating 1000-1199). The team placed fifth overall.

Besides these two tournaments, MBA has had lots of success. In March, the MBA team, consisting of Alvin Zhang, Vincent Zhang, Lucas Pao, John Morphett, Julian Habermann, Patrick Dennis, Turner Johnson, Ruff Maddox,

and Franklin McKenzie competed in the regional team championships. MBA placed third in the High School division (grades ten through twelve). The Junior High team came in first place and qualified to the state team championships. In the state team championships, MBA faced tough competition. Although MBA won the first three rounds, MBA had a disappointing loss in the last round, and the MBA chess team placed second. In the fall, two ninth graders, John Morphett and Vincent Zhang, were two of six people in Nashville to qualify for the Nashville Scholastic City Championships. Following that, Lucas Pao and Vincent Zhang placed second and fourth respectively, in the Regional Scholastic Championships (which is separate from the City Championships), qualifying for the Tennessee State Scholastic Championships in which Vincent Zhang and Lucas Pao placed first and fourth, respectively.

Special thanks to Mr. Davidson for organizing chess club, and Mr. Todd Andrews for coaching us. We are always looking for new members of the chess club. It is very fun, and no experience is needed. Chess club meets on Tuesdays during lunch 4th or 5th period.

FEATURES



PREDICTIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2018

Jackson Abbey - The next Coach Cooper
 Ty Allen - Latin scholar
 Harrison Avery - Professional keyboardist
 Thomas Bellet - WWE Star named Bellet the Bullet
 Ian Beyer - Knee therapist
 David Blaufuss - Toughness coach
 Parker Bowen - USA Track Olympian
 Ford Brewer - Country music songwriter
 Oliver Briggs - The New York Giant
 Tyson Briggs - Cover star of *FIFA 37*
 Cal Bryan - Minor League Lacrosse trainer
 Tim Buchanan - Harlem Globetrotter PF
 Alex Bulgarino - Teaches soccer to underprivileged Rhinos
 Matthew Bulow - Wimbledon
 Patrick Butner - Train conductor
 Robert Cain - Alabama football coach
 Jack Capizzi - Majors in sarcasm in college and owns an MLB team
 Thomas Carr - Dude Perfect
 JP Cooper - Sitcom laughing person
 Ben Coulthard - The UT Smoky
 Daniel Cowan - The Owner of Webkinz
 Robert Cowan - CEO of Game Changer
 Jack Crawford - Wake Forest golfer
 Steven Dashiff - *Guitar Hero* Level expert
 Cole Deal - Host of *Deal or No Deal*
 Steven Dean - Stock boy at Gamestop
 Patrick Dennis - Yacht racer
 Thomas DeRoche - National Thumb War Champion
 Ben Dotye - Motivational speaker
 Ben Elasy - Vandy Ambassador to Egypt
 Ben Evans - Boots Boy
 Will Evans - The inventor of a Calculator Gun
 Andrew Falls - Co-Owner of a Travel Agency
 Chris Falls - Co-Owner of a Travel Agency
 Anderson Flack - Aflac
 Mac Fleming - Mountain Dew overdose
 Trace Fontana - Winner of *Top Chef*
 Ivan Franco - Professional trainer
 Miller Freeman - Alice in Wonderland

Michael Garcia - Field hockey player
 Clay Garstin - Gator wrestler
 William Gilliland - President of Heinz Ketchup
 Will Gordon - Trampoline dodgeballer
 Will Grana - The next James May
 Harrison Graves - Sound effects creator
 Wesley Hall - Khaki Short Company
 Houston Hartle - Hair stylist
 Tucker Harwell - Toy tester
 Joseph Hatcher - Stand Up Comedian
 Chris Hawkins - The *Bachelor*
 Jack Hawkins - Graphic designer
 Larry Hayes - Twitter Beef starter
 Jack Heflin - Life Critic
 Bradford Holladay - President of the United States
 Tobias Houghton - Professional Rugby player
 Yosef Howard - USC Sailor
 Owen Hughes - Professional Bossy Pants
 Ben Jablonski - Helmet model
 Harrison Kidd - The next Stephen King
 William Kinard - The Auburn Eagle trainer
 Centre King - *COD Black Ops 2* MLG Pro
 Will King - Environmentalist
 John Lang - Clown
 Daniel Lee - *Family Feud* winner
 Ray Lee - Winner of *Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?*
 Robert Li - A siren
 Evans Looney - NBA basketball player
 Brian Lu - Street musician
 Haynes Lynch - Generic clothes model
 Ruff Maddux - Mall Santa
 Wiley Martin - Talk show host with a Supermodel wife
 Alex McClellan - UT Women's Basketball Coach
 Carter McClellan - Computer smasher
 Jackson McFadden - Preacher
 Franklin McKenzie - Used car dealer
 James McKnight - Belle Meade Golf Pro
 Jake McSween - State Farm agent
 Mike Miccioli - Nuclear scientist
 Josh Morin - Hockey tooth filler

Josh Morris - Father-Son golf pro
 Tay Munoz - Nashville Venom RB
 Sebastian Nigrelli - The Godfather
 Will Nutter - Multi-sport athlete sponsored by Nutty Buddy
 Jack O'Brien - Zombie hunter
 Gray Patterson - Dr. Pepper spiller
 Fenner Pollock - Hitman
 Gordon Pollock - Philosopher
 Ford Ray - Full-time lifeguard
 Alex Renkis - Dictator of Middle Eastistan
 Henry Rhodes - Creator of *NBA 2k47*
 Alexander Roberts - Cheerleader
 Mac Roberts - Putin's personal cartographer
 Blake Robison - Inventor of Sockey (Soccer and Hockey mix)
 Manny Rodgers - Manny Bucks
 Jamison Russ - Card-throwing Ninja
 Rhys Rutherford - Manager of the Rafters
 Isaac Sedek - Theatre teacher
 Brady Slinger - Brings back the *Brady Brunch*
 Brawner Smith - Smith Lacrosse Gear
 Zach Smith - owns rival company titled Smith Lacrosse Gear
 Colin Snell - Professional longboarder
 Luke Speyer - Drummer for The Woods
 John Spurgeon - Doc
 Matthew Staggs - How the Lottery Changed My Life
 Sam Strang - Professional GTA player
 Jack Sullivan - *Hobbit* extra on *The Lord of the Rings* remake
 Patrick Terry - Wall Street billionaire
 Palmer Thombs - Knights photographer
 Rashad Townsend - Seahawks Bandwagon
 Will Trotman - Guitarist
 Dayton Upchurch - Backpack Binder inventor
 Hudson Walker - Host of *Moonshiners*
 Wake Warthen - Justin Bieber Hair Stylist
 Ben Wassinger - MSI salesperson
 Will Weaver - Gondolier
 Drew Weikert - NBA's loudest player
 Isaac Wills - The Canadian Batman

FEATURES



Final Survival Tips of the Year

By Bradford Holladay



The school year is finally coming to an end, and every MBA student will be looking for fun activities during the upcoming summer vacation. Some may be traveling, and others might remain at home, but either way, like always, something could go wrong. As a Boy Scout and with the help of www.wilderness-survival.net, in this issue, you will learn how to catch fish without gear, how to make a simple and quick shelter, and how to survive a long fall.

1.) **Catching Fish:** No matter where you need to survive, you will always need food to give you the energy to keep surviving. If you are near a body of water, catching fish might be your best bet to finding a good meal. Not only do fish have nutrients that can help you, but they can also be used as bait to catch larger land animals. If you have no fishing equipment, first, after finding the desired body of water, create a makeshift hook using items such as bobby pins, sharp twigs, paper clips, and broken pop tops off of a soda can. Then find anything that you can use as string, like maybe yarn, shoelaces, long grass, etc. Finally, attach the string and hook to a long stick or pole that you can use to fish. Your bait can be any insects, colorful plastic, or even jewelry. Just find a shady area to sit and wait until the fish start biting.

2.) **Simple Shelter:** A shelter is an important part of survival in the wilderness. The first step in constructing an efficient shelter is to find an area that is best for your survival. If you can find water, then find a clearing and start building your shelter at least fifty yards away from the water. Then start looking for long sticks and grass. If you can find pine needles or leaves, then collect those as well to lay down as a base for your shelter. Take all of the materials back to the building site and lay them down. There are many ways to build a shelter from this point, but I recommend that you assemble the sticks in a teepee-like formation after laying the base of pine needles or leaves. Then find long, thick branches or leaves to cover up the shelter to protect against rain. Depending on how long you will be in your shelter, you will constantly have to keep working on the shelter to keep it standing, but this simple plan should allow for a night or two of protection.

3.) **Surviving a Fall:** If you accidentally fall off of a cliff, it would be nice to know how to fall in order to keep yourself as safe as possible. No matter if you fall off of a cliff or a building, always try to grab objects or hit ledges on the way down that will slow down your fall. As you are falling, instead of thinking about how much it will hurt once you hit the bottom, relax your body as much as you can. Keeping knees locked and muscles stiff can cause the impact to harm your vital organs. If you see that you are nearing the bottom of your fall, bend your knees just a bit for when you hit the ground. Try to remain in a standing position and lean to the side so that the impact pushes you either left or right rather than front or back. Once you hit the ground, call for help and call emergency services if you have phone service. If you follow these tips, hopefully, the only thing that will remain with you long term after the fall, will be a great story to tell.

FEATURES

Venezuela

By Jack Capizzi

Ever since Hugo Chavez died on March 5th, 2013, Venezuela has been in a horrible state with hundreds of riots, lots of death and destruction, and no Government intervention with the problem. Venezuela has never been a very stable country, but since Chavez's death, there has been more and more violence because there is no organization. By the beginning of March there had been over 3,000 murders, backing up the statistic that in Venezuela, a person is murdered every 21 minutes. Also, the amount of kidnappings have surpassed the previous "regular" totals. In addition, the Maduro/Chavez Government has not used their countries revenues from their oil resources, the largest proven reserves in the world, for simple things like toilet paper and food for their citizens. Venezuela has a government that gives weapons to colectivos (neighborhood gangs sponsored by the government) to survey cities and murder people who dare to say anything against the government. These examples of Venezuela's worsening condition beg the question, why do we not hear about it and why hasn't anyone done anything about it?

When I have asked people about Venezuela, I have been shocked by the lack of knowledge about the growing issue which has been the source of way more violence and confusion than the issue in Crimea or the missing Malaysian flight of which both have received non-stop news



The scene above is a daily occurrence in Venezuela.

attention. I am not trying to belittle these issues but I strongly believe that the violence in Venezuela is a bigger problem.

As for the issue of seemingly no one doing anything to help with Venezuela's issue, a person who has been strongly speaking out has been Florida Senator Marco Rubio. He has been pushing for identifying human rights violators in the government of Venezuela that have led to the intended deaths of thousands by hired mobs and gangs. These are not people that are hiding away in bunkers somewhere in Venezuela but rather people that own million dollar penthouses in Miami that are laughing at the US government for the fact that they know nobody will do anything to them. Rubio's answer from the government was that it is not the "right time" to seek justice against these people and their

offenses. Rubio has not hid his views and has spoken out very strongly to lots of members of government, including Secretary of State Kerry who have all given answers of it once again not being the "right time."

The growing problem in Venezuela has been very frustrating for the citizens in Venezuela and the US because of no actions of defense. People need to realize that this situation is a problem in our own hemisphere that has to do with one of the most violent countries in the world inflicting some of the most horrid crimes in the world on its people.



A young woman protestor asking for peace in her country.

FEATURES

Crimea

By Mac Roberts

If you have clicked past the national news or noticed a headline lately, you have noticed that something is happening in Ukraine. Even if you don't know a thing about it, you know there is unrest and conflict there. The purpose of this article is to try to explain what's happening in a way that's easy to understand.

Ukraine is a large country in Eastern Europe. It borders Russia to the east, the Black Sea and Sea of Azov to the south, and the countries of Belarus, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Moldova. It is over 200,000 square miles large making it the largest country entirely within Europe. According to the 2001 Ukrainian Census, the population count was over 48,000,000. Modern-



Vladimir Putin, Russia's president

day Ukraine was established in 1991 in the aftermath of the Cold War after the collapse of the United Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Ukraine was one of fifteen Soviet Socialist Republics and was back then known as "The Ukraine."

The current unrest is focused on a part of Ukraine called Crimea which is a peninsula in the Black Sea. To give you an understanding of its size, Crimea is about 10,000 square miles large and had a population of just over 2,000,000 in the 2001 Ukrainian Census.



Pro-Russian Protestors rally against Pro-Western Ukrainians.

The problem is that since modern Ukraine is a relatively new independent state, many Russians have never been fully accepting of Ukraine's independence from the Soviet Union. Many in Ukraine feel that the country is really still Russian, and this sentiment is especially prominent in Crimea where ethnic Russians make up over 50% of the population. They make up only 17% of the general population of Ukraine. So you can see how many or most of the people in Crimea want to be Russian, and Russia feels the same way. On March 18, 2014, Russia annexed Crimea, and armed men seized several government buildings.

The US and Europe have serious concerns about this event. Why would the US care about a 10,000 square mile piece of Ukraine? According to a Congressional Research Service Report, "the U.S. and European view (particularly in Central and Eastern Europe) is that a strong, independent Ukraine is an important part of building a Europe whole, free, and at peace." The same report also states that "U.S. and Ukrainian officials charge that Russian intelligence officers in Ukraine are coordinating the unrest. U.S. officials have expressed concern that Russia's efforts to destabilize eastern Ukraine may be the prelude to an invasion by

an estimated 40,000 Russian troops on Ukraine's borders."

According to an April 28, 2014 White House statement, on April 17, Russia, Ukraine, the United States, and the European Union decided on a number of steps to de-escalate the situation in eastern Ukraine, including refraining from further violence or provocative acts. However, the White House also stated that "The United States has taken further action today in response to Russia's continued illegal intervention in Ukraine and provocative acts that undermine Ukraine's democracy and threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Since April 17, Russia has done nothing to meet its Geneva commitments and in fact, has further escalated the crisis. Russia's involvement in the recent violence in eastern Ukraine is indisputable. The United States made clear it would impose additional costs on Russia if it failed to live up to its Geneva commitments and take concrete steps to deescalate the situation in Ukraine."

It is hard to say what the future might hold. The results of a May 11 vote by the Ukrainian people on independence will certainly affect the situation but it seems certain that the United States is committed to seeing peace in Ukraine.

THE FINAL CHAPTER

The Swede Files: The Final Chapter

By Anonymous

Fred looked at Eric, "Are you ready for whatever might be inside this case? I have no idea what untold horrors might be in this box."

"Wait, back up, yer sayin that the butler dude might have scary stuff?"

"Yes, Eric, in fact there's a very good chance of Satan having some horrifying things up his rotting sleeves."

Eric mustered up all of his strength and his extremely small amount of bravery and said three words "Lets do this."

Fred opened the case, and inside he found a marvelous sword that had belonged to a famous viking warrior. He gave it to Eric and then... "Fred... Fred snap out of it!" Eric yelled.

"What? What is it?" Fred asked.

"You said ye were about to open the box, and then drool started comin' out of yer mouth. Felt like five minutes til I woke you up." Eric explained.

"Oh... I was having the most marvelous dream... lets just open the box."

He opened the box, and what to his eyes appeared?

"its... its... A large piece of... TEXAS TOAST?"

"TEXAS TOAST?!?! I WANT SOME!"

" E R I C !
N O O O O O O O O O O O O O ! "

Everything became slow motion. Fred dove towards Eric, trying but failing to get the Texas toast from Eric's hands. Eric shoved the whole loaf of Texas toast in his mouth.

"Eric!"

"Yaaar FRED?? Eric asked with his mouth full

"THAT WAS OUR ONLY HOPE! YOU OAF! THIS WAS MY ONLY HOPE OF GETTING MY MOTHER BACK FROM SATAN YOU HORRIBLE, AWFUL, MONSTER OF A--"

Eric started to twitch. "Fred I didn't har a word you said, I feel rally rally weird."

Eric started convulsing. "Eric?" Eric was on the ground. "ERIC??? ERIC!!! DONT LEAVE ME NOW! IM SORRY ERIC! I'M SORRY!"

The convulsing ceased. Eric was still for what seemed like the longest time. Finally, Eric twitched for a moment, and finally got up. But he didn't look like the Eric that Fred knew. His eyes glowed with a blue luminescence that was unmatched by any light Fred had ever seen.

"H-H-How do you feel, Eric?" Fred asked, not knowing what to expect at this point.

"I... I... feel absolutely spectacular, good sir! Eric is currently being possessed by the Demon of Vengeance, and I will inform him of the message you

recently conveyed to him. What exactly are you trying to kill? is it A. a duck? B. an addiction. C. Another person D. Insert something killable?"

"It was weird," Fred thought "it sounded exactly like Eric, and yet... it wasn't him at all. I'm beginning to miss my friend,"

"So, what shall it be, good sir?"

"Iamtryingto kill... the devil himself." Fred said boisterously.

"Oh... so you're one of those guys..." The demon cracked his knuckles. "I've been waiting to do this one a LOOONG time. But, good sir, as I am the demon of vengeance, you have to give me a death related reason for killing him."

"He.... He killed my mother." Fred said quietly. A single tear rolled down his cheek.

"Oh... OH YES.... You're going to enjoy getting your vengeance! Teleportation to the Underworld commencing in 5.... 4.... 3.... 2..... 1....."

Fred and the demon exploded, which was probably the worst physical pain he had ever felt in his life. But, miraculously, he woke up in an extremely dark room. This room was almost completely filled with a gigantic shape that Fred didn't recognize, until the lights were turned on.

"Oh good lord almighty..." Fred thought.

"ACTUALLY..." an extremely deep and manly voice said "We're talking about the very opposite. This is my final form.

The Swede Files continued on page 19

THE FINAL CHAPTER

The Swede Files continued from page 18

YOU LIKE IT, Freddy?? Because my powers are dimmed on the surface, I look like a little dweeb up there. But down here, I CAN DO WHATEVER I PLEASE." Fire flew from his nostrils.

"No... how..." Fred stumbled on his words.

"Don't worry, good sir, this won't be a problem!" The Demon of Vengeance shook and started glowing out of every part of his body "FOR THE TOOOOAAAAAST!!!" The demon (still in Eric's body, had fully transformed. He had become a 60 foot tall Eric, towering over the 20 foot tall devil. Equipped in his hands were giant Texas toast boxing gloves.

The Devil just looked at him, and laughed. "Texas toast? That's gotta be a joke, right? Well, if it isn't, let's just see how much you like burnt texas toast with some giant human meat in the middle,

fully cooked."

The devil blew a huge column of flames all over the gigantic Eric. Big Eric was engulfed into flames. It looked like all was lost when huge amounts of smoke clouded everyone's vision, until the demon of vengeance's voice rang out throughout the room. "Don't you know, BEELZ? Burning the toast just makes it harder!"

The devil screamed. "NO. NOOOO. NOOOOOOOO!!!!!" as a large piece of rock hard, black Texas toast went through the Devil's chest.

"Target is dead." the demon of vengeance said "Powering down....." Sixty foot Eric fell over, and then shrunk until normal size.

"You okay, Buddy?" Fred asked Eric cautiously.

Eric puked all over himself. "What... What happened?"

"You saved the world,

Eric!"

"I did?!"

"YES ERIC! YOU DID! and that means..."

Out of the darkness, came an old lady wearing a trench coat.

"FRED??"

"MAMA!!"

While that hug fest/ reunion was going, on, more and more people came out of the shadows. Soon all of Eric's family from the mansion had come out. "Everybody!!"

"Eric... I don't know what to say..." the count said. "We all thought you were a dud, but you sure proved us! Now let's have that reunion!" AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.....

FIN.

The sponsors and staff of Top of the Hill are proud to reveal our author's true identity and to thank Harrison Kidd for three entertaining episodes of his serialized short story.

2013 - 2014 HONOR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES



Julian Habermann



Bradford Holladay



Jackson McFadden

FEATURES

Dr. Love Reveals How to Free Yourself from a Nightmare Girlfriend

Dear Dr. Love,

I hope you can help me with my girlfriend problem, and believe me – it is a problem. My girlfriend keeps telling me that she loves having a boyfriend, but she never mentions me. It is like I am her personal gift buyer! When I am with her, she takes my phone to see if I am texting other girls, and when I am not with her, she follows me around. Just last week, I saw her peeking out from behind a clothing rack in the mall! Talk about creepy! To top it all off, I always hear her bragging about her boyfriend to her friends, but she will not even introduce me. I am the random guy hanging around and her, but she talks like she has a secret Ryan Gosling on the side! How do I get out? Help!

Eagerly awaiting your and her reply,

Appropriately Anonymous



Chris Hawkins is Dr. Love

Dear Appropriately Anonymous,

Your girlfriend sounds like quite the mess. There are two ways you could break up with her. One of the ways is the nice way. The other way is to break up with her in a brutally honest way. For the nice way, talk to her politely, and say that your relationship is not working. The mean way however, is the exact opposite. First, give her a taste of her own medicine, and do not introduce her to your friends. Text all of the girls you want to get her paranoid when she checks your phone. If she ever asks you to buy her something, do not buy her anything, and completely ignore her. Then, tell her she is the worst thing that has ever happened to you in your life, and break up with her. Since she is following you wherever you go, get a restraining order to keep her away. If this strategy does not keep her away, I do not know what will.

Good Luck,
Dr. Love



ENTERTAINMENT

Noah Movie Sinks Under Weight of High Expectations

By John Spurgeon



actual flood. That is about where the good stops.

The first and worst part of the movie is how biblically incorrect it is. There are many holes. First, Ham, Shem, and Japheth were all

married before they got into the ark, so Ham searching for a wife and rebelling against Noah was completely made up. Also, the “watcher’s” the movie talks about did exist, but their proper name is the Nephilim, which translates as “giants” or “mighty men.” They were not fallen angels because they wanted to help mankind, and they were not rock monsters. They were very strong and corrupt men who were part of the reason the earth was so corrupt. Also, in the movie, Shem’s wife has twin girls who Noah says he will kill when they are born because God wanted Man to die out. The truth is God did

not want man to die out. He wanted to fix the corruption of the earth. One of the more suspenseful scenes occurs when Noah is on the deck of the ark with Shem’s wife and the twins. He has a knife and looks like he is about to kill the girls. He instead bends down and kisses both of them. He then looks up at the clouds dramatically and says, “I cannot do this.” This action suggests to the audience that Noah is kinder and knows better than God, which of course is absurd. Another problem with the movie was the snakeskin. When Lamech (Noah’s father) tried to bless him, he wrapped a snakeskin around his arm, which started to glow. This raised some eyebrows because the symbol of the devil is a snake. Not only was the movie Biblically incorrect, it was just bad. It was very odd because they were vegetarians and there were animals that don’t exist today. Also, there was no real protagonist. It seemed Noah was the protagonist, but when he wanted to kill the children, he lost that title.

The movie in general was poorly done. It had some bright spots, but they were far outweighed by the dark spots. The best rating that I can give this movie is one and a half arks out of ten.

Mrs. Roberts' Survival Tips for a Safe Summer

1. If you are riding in it, wear a seat belt.
2. If you are riding on it, wear a helmet.
3. Don't eat yellow snow cones unless you ordered a lemon one!
4. "The term "Hey guys watch this?" is usually followed by a really poor decision. Be smart and be safe!



ENTERTAINMENT

Divergent

By John Spurgeon

Divergent is a movie about a girl living in a dystopian society trying to find the place she fits into while trying to hide the secret that she is divergent. The society of the people in *Divergent* is split into factions. They separate them into factions based on their strengths. The different factions are Dauntless, Amity, Erudite, Abnegation, and Candor. At the age of sixteen every person has to take a "test" process in which the results are used to place people into factions. They recommend factions based on this test, but they are free to choose whichever one they want. Both of her parents are in Abnegation, and her brother seemed destined to be in it too. She is faced with a



tough decision though when her test scores come back as divergent (she fits into multiple factions). She has to decide to stay with her parents in Abnegation or face the rough training routine of Dauntless.

Overall, the movie was well done. There were good acting performances, good special effects, and an interesting plot. The main downside was that it was really long, and at times it seemed boring. Also, it was filled with too many

plot twists that made it annoying and a bit predictable. Also, some of the characters seemed unlikeable. The overall feel of the movie was fun. It was the many exciting moments like having a dart gun war near a Ferris wheel or zip lining across the Chicago skyline

that made this movie fun. It was enjoyable to watch, and I will be getting it when it comes out on DVD. I give this movie eight factions out of ten.



Captain America

By Will Weaver

WARNING: Contains Spoilers

Captain America: The Winter Soldier was not the best of the Marvel movies and really destroyed a lot of the foundation of the Avengers.

Basically, Captain America and Nick Fury are hunted by the Winter Soldier, who turns out to



be Bucky, Captain America's best friend in the first movie. Hydra froze him and wiped his memory so that he could do their bidding. Steve, Black Widow, and the Falcon, a new character with a flight suit, must fight to uncover the underground growth of Hydra inside of S.H.I.E.L.D.

Also, they must stop a high-tech assault on millions of people on the planet who might even remotely be a threat to Hydra.

I believe Marvel did not think this movie through because, by destroying S.H.I.E.L.D., they destroyed the entire foundation of all of the Avengers. All of the Avengers were united by S.H.I.E.L.D. So, by destroying it, what will become of the Avengers?

Overall, I believe this movie was not as good as the first *Captain America* movie, and Marvel did a poor job.



ENTERTAINMENT

Lucas' Big Red Sudoku

By Lucas Pao

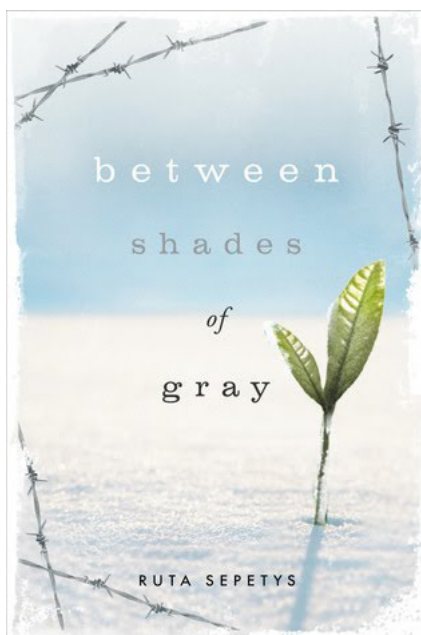
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | | 1 | | 3 | | | 7 | 8 |
| | 3 | | | | 8 | 4 | | |
| 4 | | 7 | 1 | 2 | | | 5 | |
| 3 | | | 2 | | | | 6 | 5 |
| | | 5 | | 9 | | 8 | 2 | |
| 1 | | 8 | 6 | | 5 | 7 | 3 | 9 |
| 8 | 7 | | | | | 5 | | |
| | 4 | | | 6 | 3 | | 1 | |
| | | 9 | 5 | | 4 | 3 | | 2 |

How to play Sudoku:

Objective: to fill in all the squares with numbers

Restrictions: Each number (1-9) can be only placed once in every row, column, and black box

The All-School Read for Fall 2014



Between Shades of Gray

By
Ruta Sepetys

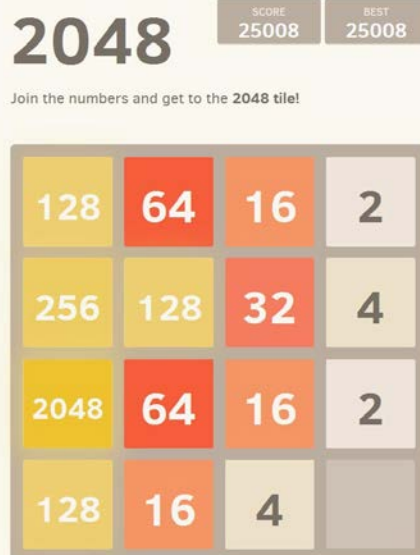


ENTERTAINMENT

2048: The Next *Flappy Bird*

By Harrison Kidd

Everyone had *Flappy Bird*. EVERYONE. But what if there were to be something that replaced it. “No way!” I said in my previous article about the deleting of *Flappy Bird*. But like all trends, it left and was easily replaced. The next smartphone fad is *2048*, a highly strategic game based on tiles. It’s fun for the whole family; my dad and my grandparents play it and are completely addicted, as are most MBA junior school students. The point of *2048* is to combine tiles in order to make the 2048 tile. You start with two 2 tiles, and every time you swipe on your screen to combine the numbers, a 2 or a 4 appears, replacing one of the empty tiles. The reason not many people have made it to the number 2048 is because by the time you get to the 1024 tile, it is almost impossible to not be overwhelmed by all of the tiles that can’t be matched up in the current situation. A little known fact: there was a precursor to the game made by Jason Saxon, called *1024*, which was already a new version of the original game *Threes*, which inspired Cirulli, the developer of *2048*, to later make



the game (basically I’m nicely saying that he ripped off *1024* and got famous because of the idea). As with all Internet fads, many parodies have been made of *2048*. I will now divulge some of my favorites.

2048 AI (otherwise known as cheating): has a computer play in the place of the person.

HN plays 2048: this parody is based on the famous web series “twitch plays pokemon.” Anyone on the website can try to enter commands to move the tiles that it chooses randomly.

2048 3D and 4D: you thought one game going on was impossible? This version adds two, or even THREE more screens, making the game pretty much impossible.

2048 doge: based on the dog Internet phenomenon.

DO NOT PLAY IF YOU ARE PRONE TO SEIZURES!

-512: includes both positive and negative tiles; the goal is to get to -512.

16384 Hexagon (JUST DONT EVEN TRY THIS): the square grid becomes a hexagon and the goal is upped up to 16384. NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PEOPLE WITH ANGER ISSUES!

2048 Flappy Bird (aka that is SO last month): You are a tile flying through trying not to hit other tiles. The goal of the game is (obviously) 2048.

1597: Does using the power of twos in *2048* ever get boring? Then try *1597*, and get ready for your mind to be blown when you have to follow the Fibonacci sequence.

2048: Pokémon: It is what it sounds like and it IS FUN.

2048 Tetris (aka for the old-timers): same goal as last time, gameplay changed to be *Tetris*.

2048 Finals (aka my personal favorite; play this instead of studying): this game gives an easy win, and lets you study for exams.

Have a good summer playing *2048* or whatever trendy game comes after.



ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT YOU PLAN TO DO
DURING SUMMER



WHAT YOU DO DURING
SUMMER



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ENTERTAINMENT

The State of Movies

By Jack Capizzi

It seems as though today's movies have been deteriorating. When you look at the movies, you see trailers for TV, and all you see is ACTION with guns and explosions or remakes of movies from the past. One of the biggest examples of this development is of course the Marvel's *The Avengers*. I understand the appeal of *Iron Man* and *Captain America*, but having two *Captain America* movies and two *Thor* movies is unnecessary,



and just a way to make lots of money by throwing in a couple of side characters with a twist and a few explosions.

Film has proven to be one of the best ways that stories can be told creatively to express ideas. There are still many films that come out every year that are more creative and are easily able to be seen. I truly believe that anyone who reads this article should try to discover what movies really are and can be.



Jeter's Final Season

By Jack Capizzi

Derek Jeter will be retiring at the end of the year, and it will be the official end of an era that has created one of the best baseball teams in history and some of the best players with it. This New York Yankees team included people like Jorge Posada, Andy Pettitte, Mike Mussina, Bernie Williams, Mariano Rivera, and of course, Derek Jeter. During his illustrious career, Jeter has won five Gold Gloves and Silver Slugger awards, Rookie of the Year, and five World Series championships. All of these titles portray Jeter's greatness,



but so do the iconic plays that have embodied his career. My personal favorite Derek Jeter play occurred on July 1, 2004 against the Red Sox: a foul ball was about a meter from the stands on the left field line, and Derek Jeter comes out of nowhere to catch the ball and dives head first into the stands. Then, he gets up with the ball in his glove, clambers out of the stands, and then proceeds to continue play with a swollen face and lots of cuts. This is one of

his many great plays that illustrate his clutch and constant drive, such as the time when he hit a walk-off home run in the bottom of the tenth inning in the 4th game of the 2001 World Series about a month after the attacks of September 11th. Derek Jeter has made his mark on baseball and the community around it and will surely be missed until 2020 when Derek Jeter will be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.



SPORTS

World Cup Preview

By Jack Capizzi

The World Cup will begin on June 12 with Brazil kicking it off against the not so mighty Croatia. Hosting the World Cup in Brazil will surely be interesting due to the amount of competition from all parts of the globe, and I will be giving my thoughts on the teams and how they will do.



USA: The USA soccer team this year faces a daunting task by facing powerhouses Germany and Portugal in their group. Many people have complained about having to face these teams and getting a bad draw, but with a country that has over 300 million people, I think we should be able to make a good team that is able to compete with some of the major countries. All that being said, we still have one of our best teams yet with Premier League stars, Jozy Altidore and Clint Dempsey. The US probably won't make it out of their group, but you never know.

Argentina: Argentina is one team that I am definitely looking forward to seeing play in Brazil this year. They probably have their best team since Diego Maradona took them all the way in 1976 and 1978. They are definitely going to be aided by having the best player in the world, Lionel Messi, at their side, and he is hungry for a World Cup title to help boost his already amazing career. To assist him will be some great players from around the world like Carlos Tevez from Juventes, Sergio Aguero from Manchester City, and Javier Mascherano from Barcelona. Argentina is a team I would definitely like to see win.

Spain: Spain is one of the highest predicted winners of the World Cup in Brazil. They were able to dominate the 2010 World Cup in South Africa and are going to try again with almost the exact same team. They may see a little bit of competition from returning runner up Netherlands but will surely be moving on. Spain will most definitely make it to the semis, if not all the way with their solid lineup.

Portugal: Portugal has gotten a lot of hype due to their star forward Cristiano Ronaldo. Even though their team is good, they probably won't get past Argentina. I have them scheduled to play in my bracket.

Germany: Germany is probably the best team in the World Cup, and they are the team I have picked to win it all. They have an amazing team with Manuel Neuer, who is the best goalie in the tournament. They also have Arsenal striker Mesüt Ozil who has the potential to be one of the best players in the tournament, Thomas Müller who has won the Golden Boot Award and Best Young Player in 2010, and lots of other players who I believe will help them win the World Cup.

World Cup continued on page 28

ENTERTAINMENT



World Cup continued from page 27

Brazil: Brazil will of course be in contention to win because they are playing at home and have one of the better teams in the World Cup. The team has a bright future in star player Neymar who will be helped by his partner from Barcelona, Dani Alves.

Italy: Italy isn't one of the favored teams to win the tournament, but that's one of the things that will help the La Squadra Azzurra. They are known for being able to always show up in big games and unexpectedly win. Gianluigi Buffon will help them in goal along with Pirlo and Mario Ballotelli who will be a big part of their team.

The World Cup will be very interesting to watch this year. I have chosen the semi-final matches to include Germany, Brazil, Spain, and Argentina. I believe the final will include Germany and Spain with Germany scoring two goals to make them the winner of the World Cup.



SPORTS

College Baseball Update

As of 5/11/14

By Ben Coulthard



Many people know of the MLB as being America's pastime, but in order to make the MLB, many players make names for themselves while playing college baseball. All college players dream of one thing: making the trip to Omaha, Nebraska to play in the College World Series.

Jameis Winston. You may have heard of him before. He played quarterback for the Florida State Seminoles and led them to a National Championship over Auburn. Just so you know, he's also one of the best relief pitchers in the NCAA. He's pitched 27 innings so far this season for the 4th ranked Seminoles and has struck out 21 batters. That's almost one every inning. He also is hitting .235 with 9 RBIs and 28 hits. He's about as good at baseball as he is at football.

The Virginia Cavaliers and Oregon State Beavers are at the top of many polls in America. With records of 41-9 and 37-8 respectively, both teams have strong pitching staffs that provide the bulk of the success. Both teams only have about a .280 team batting average, which means they get hits about 28 percent of the time. This figure is pretty average for college teams. However, with team ERAs hovering around the 2.20 range, it is apparent that both pitching staffs get work done.

As always, there have been multiple teams that have surprised people in good and bad ways. The UL-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns and Cal Poly Mustangs have been ranked in the top 10 all year. The Cajun's have one of the best records in college baseball of 46-7, and Cal Poly isn't far behind at 39-10. Lafayette hits .320 and Cal Poly hits .295. These teams have benefitted from hot batting.

On the other side of the spectrum, teams that have underperformed are NC State, UCLA, and Cal State Fullerton. All three teams were expected to make the College World Series, but now, they are fighting just to make the tournament. NC State is 29-20, UCLA is 23-24-1, and Cal State Fullerton is 25-21. I believe all three should make the tournament, but stranger things have happened.

Locally, the 10th ranked Vanderbilt Commodores are 38-14 and seem to be playing their best baseball of the season right now after taking two of three games against fellow SEC powerhouse Florida Gators. The bats are hot and are hitting .279 as a team, and the pitching is one of the best in the country with a 2.48 ERA. Leaders such as Bryan Reynolds, Carson Fulmer, and Dansby Swanson have ignited this Commodore lineup after hitting a rough stretch midway through the season. Vandy is 9-2 in their last 11 games and have lost to high quality teams, fifth ranked Louisville and eleventh ranked Florida, in closely contested games.

My eight teams that I believe will go to the College World Series in Omaha are Louisville, Oregon State, LSU, Vanderbilt, Virginia, Oklahoma State, Oregon, and Indiana. This depends on how the brackets for regionals and super regionals shape up because some of these teams could play each other in super regionals.



The Sponsors and Editors of Top of the Hill would like to thank the MBA Mothers and Fathers Clubs for their generous support this year.

SPORTS



Commodore Corner

By Ben Coulthard

As of 5/12/14



Basketball: After a basketball season that was successful in the minds of many fans, the Vanderbilt team lost three players due to graduation. Kyle Fuller and Rod Odom had been role players, but turned out to be stars after only having seven players throughout the season. Odom averaged 13.6 PPG and 5.2 rebounds in the 2013-2014 season, and Fuller averaged 11.0 PPG and 4.2 assists in the 2013-14 season. Rob Cross, who was a team manager for most of his Vanderbilt career, ended up having to play in two of the Commodores games due to lack of players. He ended his career averaging 1.0 rebounds and 0.5 assists per game, but had played a much larger role than appears on the stat sheet. Looking forward to next season, the team already has commitments from SG Cameron Justice out of Knott County Central (KY), and SF Joseph Toye out of La Lumiere School (IN). Justice is a three-star recruit, and Toye is a four-star recruit who is also on the Rivals150 top prospect list. The upcoming season looks bright for the Commodores with former point guard Kedren Johnson returning to campus.

Football: Derek Mason's team is getting ready to start spring practice in preparation for their season opener against Temple on August 28. Even after key losses in WR Jordan Matthews, CB Andre Hal, and S Kenny Ladler, new stars will emerge. Eleven former Vanderbilt players were either drafted in the NFL Draft or signed free agent deals. Jordan Matthews (Eagles), Wesley Johnson (Steelers), Andre Hal (Texans), Kenny Ladler (Bills), Carey Spear (Eagles), Jonathan Krause (Browns), Stephen Clarke (Dolphins), Javon Marshall (Falcons), Walker May (Falcons), Chase Garnham (Buccaneers), and Chris Boyd (Cowboys) are going to be playing for NFL teams starting this fall.

Baseball: This upcoming weekend will be the final regular season series for Tim Corbin's baseball squad. They will take on 9th-ranked South Carolina. In order to be one of the top four teams in the SEC Tournament, they need to win two of three. If they do so, they will get a first-round bye in the SEC Tournament in Hoover, AL. Unlike last year, this Vanderbilt team is hitting their stride towards the end of the season and seem to be peaking right before the postseason. After a rough series against Arkansas, the Commodores have won 9 of their last 11, which gives them an overall record of 38-14. The hitting has had its ups and downs, but leaders in Bryan Reynolds, Dansby Swanson, and Vince Conde have heated up the Vandy bats by outscoring their opponents 31-13 in their last two weeks. The team's pitching has also righted the ship after inserting hard-throwing righthander Carson Fulmer into their weekend rotation. Fulmer has gone 3-0 in three starts with a 0.98 season ERA and 62 season strikeouts. He has yet to give up a run as a starter. Going into the SEC Tournament, the Commodore team is projected to gain one of the top four seeds, and also should make it to at least the semifinals, if not the championship. Vanderbilt is also projected to host a postseason regional.

SPORTS



MLB Season Update

As of 5/11/14

By Ben Coulthard



After the Boston Red Sox brought the World Series back to Boston, the offseason that occurred in the MLB was as crazy as it always is. Major league transactions such as Robinson Cano's 10-year/\$240 million new contract with the Seattle Mariners or the New York Yankees doing what they do best, signing players for absurd amounts of money, made headlines for months. The "Evil Empire" made huge splashes in the offseason by signing big names such as Jacoby Ellsbury, Brian McCann, Carlos Beltran, and Japanese superstar, Masahiro Tanaka.

Many stories have already been made this season. Tanaka has already gone 5-0 in 7 starts with a 2.57 ERA. The Atlanta Braves starting pitching rotation has been magnificent so far, even without big names such as Brandon Beachy, Kris Medlen, and Mike Minor. With a 2.40 ERA, players such as Julio Teheran, Ervin Santana, and Aaron Harang have anchored this staff to 1st place in the NL East Division. Yankee pitcher Michael Pineda has had multiple run-ins with the rules after being caught with pine tar on his hand in multiple starts. For those who don't know, pine tar is illegal for pitchers to use because it gives the pitcher an advantage by letting him control the ball more. Pineda was suspended for eight games after his pine tar incident.

So far, no pitchers have thrown a perfect game or a no-hitter, but Yu Darvish of the Texas Rangers came one out away from throwing a no-hitter. However, David Ortiz was able to hit a two-out single in the 9th inning past the infield to break up the no-hitter. Rookies have been able to break onto the big stage so far this year. Jose Abreu of the Chicago White Sox has a .272 batting average with 13 home runs and 37 runs batted in. Chris Owings of the Arizona Diamondbacks is hitting .295 with 1 home run and 4 RBIs. As mentioned earlier, Masahiro Tanaka is throwing really well with a 5-0 record and a 2.57 ERA.

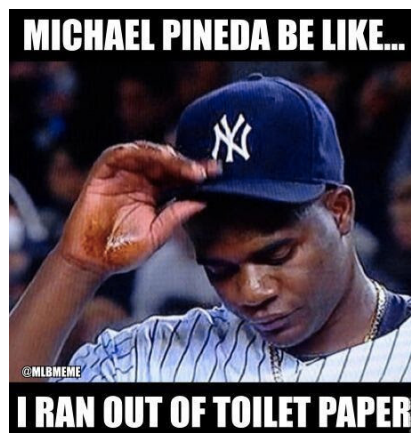
Predictions:

AL - Cy Young: Mark Buehrle
AL - MVP: Mike Trout/Miguel Cabrera

NL - Cy Young: Johnny Cueto
NL - MVP: Troy Tulowitzki



Mike Trout



Troy Tulowitzki

SPORTS

Final Nashville Predators Season Update

By Robert Cowan

The Nashville Predators had another disappointing season in which they didn't make the playoffs. The Preds finished with a record of 38-32-12 and with 88 points. The final stretch of their season was a pretty good one. In their last 22 games, the Predators went 12-10 and only missed the playoffs by 3 points. At the end of the season, the question was whether or not the coach, Barry Trotz, would stay.



Peter Laviolette, the Preds new coach

Only one day after the season ended, GM David Poile announced that the Predators would not extend Barry Trotz's contract. This wasn't



a major shock to Predators fans who were ready for a change. As a fan myself, I thought it was time for a change. Trotz has been the only coach in Predators history, and his defensive style won't win a Stanley Cup. Some people might say that Trotz didn't have good forwards that could score goals. This could be true to some extent, but the forwards that the Preds have can win them a Stanley Cup. In the Predators last 10 games, they scored 43 goals. If they could be consistent with that stat, then they would be a much better team. Also, the Preds gave Trotz plenty of time to get a really good team that could score more goals, but when he missed the playoffs

two years in a row after going for the past four, it is time for a change.

On May 6th, the Preds hired a new coach, Peter Laviolette. Peter won the Stanley Cup in 2006 with the Carolina Hurricanes and

coached the Philadelphia Flyers from 2008-2013. The Flyers fired Peter Laviolette this season after three games. Laviolette was then

hired because of his ability to produce offense. Claude Giroux was an offensive powerhouse with the Flyers that Peter helped develop. With a new coach, the Preds hope to have a fresh start to a new era.

Shea Weber, the Predators captain, was nominated for the Norris Trophy, which is for the top defenseman in the league. This is his third nomination in four years. He led the Preds in points with 56. In my opinion, he should win the



Shea Weber nominated for the Norris Trophy

trophy.

Going into the NHL draft, the Preds need to get some more offense, which should be their focus. This season, the Predators had a pretty disappointing season, but that could be because of Pekka Rinne's injury. The next season for the Preds will be great for all the players with a new coach putting a new mindset into the players and the team.

BIG RED SPORTS

Novice Crew Spring Season

By Will Weaver



The novice crew team has had a great spring season this year.

The competitors were divided into a four man boat and an eight man boat. The four consisted of eighth-graders Anderson Flack, John Lang, Mac Roberts, and Will Weaver. The eight consisted of Franklin Frazier, Harrison Kidd, John Lang, Brandon Lewis, Mac Roberts, Reagan Sparks, Hudson Walker, and Will Weaver.

The season started off at the Williams Island Duals in Chattanooga, where the four and the eight raced the Nashville Rowing Club. Both boats got second place in their races. At the end of the



The 2014 Novice Crew Microbe Team

day, everyone was pretty happy with the results. Next up was the Dogwood Regatta in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The four started off the day with a bronze medal in a pool of six boats, most of which were high schools. The eight finished well in the under 15 race against Asheville Rowing Club and St. Andrews Rowing Club. The rowers

pulled hard and were able to secure a silver medal, beating St. Andrews by a boat length. Finally, the novice went to the State Championship at McCallie. There, the four and the eight boats competed against Baylor and McCallie and were both able to secure second place.

Overall, this season has been a great one for the novice team, and



The 2014 Novice Crew Microbe Team

they hope to continue their streak in the fall of next year.

BIG RED SPORTS

Spring Success: Microbe A Baseball

By Palmer Thombs

The Microbe A Baseball team had a very successful season this spring. Strong pitching and fantastic defensive play led to double-digit wins for the Big Red. The Big Red started the spring with a wonderful win over the Nashville Monarchs followed by a tight loss to FRA. Ben Coulthard kept the struggling bats of the Big Red in the game, but FRA scratched across a run and squeaked out the win, 1-0. The team came back with a thriller of a victory over the Nashville Monarchs late into a Friday night. Down one

with two outs and nobody on in the last inning, Palmer Thombs hit a triple to bring life back to the Big Red. He was then knocked in on a clutch single by Grant Ellison to tie the game. The game went to extras, and Brady Slinger got the walk off RBI single, bringing in Cole Crider. The thriller against the Monarchs was the first of five straight victories over the Monarchs, Nashville Christian, USN, Ezell Harding, and Lipscomb. The Big Red battled tightly with a Nashville Catholic team full of many great baseball players, but came up short and lost 3-1. The loss to Catholic was followed by another bad performance by the Big Red bats, and the team lost 3-1 to CPA. Following the CPA loss, the Big Red alternated wins and losses the rest of the season, including two great games against BA. With rain on the horizon, the Big Red jumped out to an early lead against undefeated rival BA. The Big Red had the lead when the rain started to fall, but the game was resumed later that week, and BA pulled out a 6-5 win. Immediately following the

resume of the earlier game, the two teams played the second game of the series. The bats of the Big Red came out early, including Ty Allen who got hot to end the season. MBA pulled away and stomped BA for an 11-4 victory. Following a few more close games, MBA headed into the HVAC Tournament as the 5 seed in the upper bracket with a play-in matchup with BGA. Miller Freeman dominated on the mound, and the Big Red offense exploded for 6 runs in the first inning. The early attack was too much for BGA to handle, and MBA advanced with a 12-5 victory to another matchup with rival BA. The Big Red scored an early run; however, the balls that they hit throughout the remainder of the game ended up in the gloves of the opponent. The Big Red lost 5-1 to the eventual HVAC champion to end a spectacular season. The team learned to battle through the ups and down and showed a bright side for the future of MBA Baseball as the eighth-grade leaders move up to high school.



The 2014 Microbe A Baseball Team

BIG RED SPORTS

Microbe B Baseball

By John Spurgeon



The MBA Microbe B team had a good season this year posting a record of 6-4 to give the Big Red another winning season. The team fueled its winning ways with strong pitching, good defense, and timely hitting. The Big Red started out slow with a record of 3-4, but won its last three games to boost the record over five hundred. The team was fueled by eighth grade leaders Jack Capizzi, Jamison Russ, and John Spurgeon. Jack Capizzi,

Brendan Harris, Jackson Hannah, Blake Kirchenbauer, Jamison Russ, John Spurgeon, and William Stewart led the offensive attack for the Big Red each coming up with multiple timely hits. Blake Kirchenbauer led the team in defense playing some of the best defense MBA has seen in a long time. Brendan Harris led the outfield in defense acting as a vacuum in center field. On the bump, Jack Capizzi, Jackson Lyle, Joseph Perrazini, and John Spurgeon dominated opponents. Jake and Tye Herbstreit led the team showing great contact hitting at the plate and lightning quick speed on

the base paths. The Big Red closed out another successful season on an optimistic note by beating Nashville Christian 7-3 after losing to them earlier in the season. They won the game with a good pitching performance from John Spurgeon and Jack Capizzi and great hitting from Brendan Harris, who went 2-3 with 2 RBIs. This group will look to continue to roll in years to come, and the future looks bright for MBA Baseball.



The 2014 Microbe B Baseball Team

BIG RED SPORTS

Microbe Track

By Jake McSween

The Microbe Track team started off a promising season with a second place finish to BA at the Highland Games. From there, the season only got better. Meet to meet, the strides of improvement were noticeable. Personal records were being broken regularly, and everyone seemed to be improving. In practice, teammates pushed each other to the



The 2014 Microbe Track Team

discus, Rhys Rutherford came in second behind Ensworth with Ford

Brewer not far behind. In the four by eight hundred meter relay, MBA came in second to BA after beating out CPA. Personal records were being set, and points were

being collected. MBA needed the valuable points from each runner to compete with BA. At the conclusion of the meet, MBA came in second place just behind BA. Though we came in second place, there was an appreciable difference in each runner from when he started the season to when he ended. Even with the eighth graders gone, the seventh graders will be back next year to lead the Microbe Track team to an HVAC Championship.



The 4 x 800 relay team

limit, and everyone got better. All the practice and hard work culminated at the HVAC Championship. In the sprints, seventh graders Charlie Buffkin, John Curry, Sam Dugan, and many others competed against the fastest runners from schools like BA, Ensworth, and USN. Charlie Buffkin won the four hundred meter dash beating out two people from BA. In the eight hundred, MBA came in fourth, fifth, and sixth. In



BIG RED SPORTS

Microbe Tennis Brings Back the HVAC

By Mike Miccioli

The 2014 Microbe Tennis season was thrilling all the way through and ended triumphantly. They started the season with their first match at USN. As expected, the Big Red cruised through all of their matches, winning by a count of 5 matches to 0. The Microbes' second match against FRA was just as easy, winning with a 5-0 clean sweep again. MBA knew that its next match against BA would by far be its hardest HVAC league match. Last year, the Big Red split matches with BA, winning 3 to 2 in the regular season but losing 2-3 in the HVAC tournament. Once again the match was close. Unfortunately, the first match to finish was the #2 singles match, with Matthew Bulow losing 8-0. The following match to finish was also a loss, with our #1 doubles team Thomas Carr and Ben Elasy losing 8-4. Soon after, the #2 doubles team of Mike Miccioli and Robert Cain won 8-4, and MBA was on the board. The remaining two matches were both tight and continued for a while afterward.



The 2014 HVAC Tennis Champions!

After a well-fought match, Jackson McFadden pulled out the #3 singles match 8-6. At 2-2, the final and deciding match was the #1 singles match. Hugh Graham was playing the reigning HVAC champion, so his task would be quite challenging. After another nail-biting match, Hugh lost 8-6, and the Big Red narrowly lost to BA 2-3. However, BA bounced back last year after a loss in the regular season, so MBA knew that with some resilience, they too could come back to win the HVAC.

The Microbes started their resilient mission strong, winning their next match against Harding 4-1. The Big Red's next match was against non-conference rival McCallie. After a 6-3 loss in the fall, MBA was determined to reverse the outcome, even though the match was just for fun. Sixteen scoring matches were played as opposed to the normal five, since there were no official rules. MBA's theme of resilience was on display

that day, winning by a score of 11-5. The Big Red took #1, #2, #3, #4, #6, #8, #9 and #10 singles matches and #1, #2, and #3 doubles. After that satisfying victory, MBA rolled dominantly through Ensworth 4-1, CPA 5-0, BGA 5-0, and ended the regular season strongly with a win over DCA 5-0.

Going into the HVAC, the Big Red really only had to worry about BA. MBA would once again be champions if they could just overturn one match result against BA. In the #1 singles semifinals, Hugh Graham avenged his loss to the Ensworth #1 in the regular season, beating him 8-2. The Ensworth opponent walked off the court, crying in shame. Unfortunately, in another phenomenal showdown, BA's #1 player won his match against Hugh Graham 8-6 to win the #1 singles bracket. As expected, the Big Red #2 doubles team of Mike Miccioli and Gibby Gibson cruised through

Tennis continued on page 38

BIG RED SPORTS

8th Grade Lacrosse

By Fenner Pollock

The 8th grade lacrosse team had a great season with a regular season record of 12-0-1 and a McCallie Invitational championship. The Big Red dominated every team in Nashville, with wins versus Ensworth by double digit goals

and Woodland multiple times. The team captains were Jackson Abbey, Harrison Graves, Fenner Pollock, and Gordon Pollock. Seventh-grade goalie, Chris Tarquinio, all of the defensemen, and everyone else on the team contributed throughout the whole year. The team also had hard fought wins against Houston (Memphis) and a tie in four overtimes against Memphis University School. In the McCallie Invitational Tournament, the team moved on to the semifinal game after playing two games. In the semifinal game, the

team faced the hometown rival team, Ensworth, once again and beat them handedly. The Big Red advanced to the championship where they played a skilled team, Lassiter (Georgia). MBA had lost a very close game in the first game of the tourney, and they wanted revenge. MBA was down 4-3 at halftime, but the Big Red played their best half of the year in the second half. The final score of the championship game was 11-4 MBA, and the 8th grade team had won its first McCallie Championship in twelve years.



The 2014 Eighth-Grade Lacrosse Team

Tennis continued from page 37
their bracket, winning their two matches 8-0 and 8-3. Also holding his ground, Jackson McFadden won his #3 singles bracket, beating last year's #3 singles champion 8-4 in the finals. The Big Red just needed one more match; the clutch Microbes won both. The #1 doubles team of Thomas Carr and Ben Elasy reversed the outcome of their match against BA, beating them 8-3 in the finals of their bracket. As a bonus, perhaps in the match of the tournament,

Matthew Bulow dethroned BA's #2 singles player in the semifinals, to whom had lost in the regular season 8-0. BA's #2 player, like their #1 and #3, was returning after winning his bracket last year in the HVAC. In a lengthy, intense match, Matthew prevailed 9-8 in a tiebreaker. After that match, the final was a breeze, with Matthew winning over Ensworth's #2, 8-5. The Big Red had won the title by a landslide, making it to the finals of all the brackets and winning 4. MBA had won the

tournament, against a starting lineup from BA that had their #1, #2, and #3 singles players returning after winning their brackets last year. According to Coach Dr. Boyd, this team was the best team that he has ever coached, including multiple state champion cricket teams. After losing a tight HVAC tournament last year and another close match this year, both to BA, MBA's HVAC landslide victory is a fantastic demonstration of the resilience of the Microbe Tennis program.

BIG RED SPORTS

MBA 7th Grade Lacrosse



By Doug Gaw

This year the seventh-grade MBA Lacrosse team had a great turnout with many guys ready to play.

The team consisted of the following players: Blake Andrews (#2), Bennett Blackwell (#19), Max Bostelman (#22), William Bradford (#31), Peyton Brien (#18) Henry Caver (#23), Will Caver (#21), John Dinkins (#4), Walt Dobson (#25), Josiah Francis (#34), Doug Gaw (#8), Ian Hall (#30), Liam Huber (#24), Henry Hylbert (#10), Cameron Jacobson (#1), Cannon King (#26), Jackson Lampley (#45), Paul Lee (#17), Jackson Link (#42), Joshua Meriwether (#35), Garrett Murphy (#7), Braden Myers (#28), Nick Nola (#5), Kanayo Offodile (#36), Jack Rankin (#16), Carson Reisinger (#29), Daniel Skaff (#32), Jaden Smith (#53), Joseph Stevens (#14), Andrew Sutphin (#3), Billy Thomas (#9), Cole Turner (#15), James Vest (#27), Frank Wilk (#20), and Ben Wood (#12).

We started out at the Caroland Tournament on the 42nd Avenue fields where we lost to Woodland, then we tied with Ensworth. We eventually beat those



The 2014 Seventh-Grade Lacrosse Team

teams later in the season. We ended with an 11-2 season (not including the 1st tournament) and beat teams like Ensworth B team, Harding Academy B team, Woodland, MUS, Sunset Middle, McCallie B Team, USN, and many more good teams. Emotions ran very high when we won games against Woodland (who beat us earlier in the season), USN (who also Beat us earlier in the season), and beating our biggest school rivals Ensworth (whom we

tied with earlier in the season), MUS, and McCallie.

For the most part, this season was a lot of the players' first year even to play lacrosse, but after a while, team chemistry built, and the lacrosse team was able to win games. The future is looking very bright for the 7th grade in lacrosse. Also special recognition goes out to Coach Brown and Coach Phipps for coaching us this year.



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